## 2005 WALLEYE FISHING REGULATIONS for the ST. CLAIR SYSTEM AND LAKE ERIE

(Michigan and Ohio: Same as 2004; Ontario: Changes in bold print)



	Michigan	Ontario	Ohio
St. Clair River & Lk St. Clair:	6 fish per day Open all year 13 " size limit	6 fish per day Open all year <b>No size limit</b>	
Detroit River:	5 fish per day Open all year 15" size limit	4 fish (March and April) 6 fish (May – Feb) no size limit	
Lake Erie:	5 fish per day Closed April and May 15" size limit	6 fish (May 14 – March 14) Closed March 15 – May 13 no size limit	3 fish (March & April) 6 fish (May – Feb.) 15" size limit

The Detroit River is defined as: In Michigan - upstream limit: From Windmill Point south to the international border.

- downstream limit: An east-west line through the southern tip of Celeron Island.

In Canada - upstream limit: From the northerly tip of Peche Island, south to the green marker buoy #DP5 and

from that buoy to the most easterly point of the gravel dock in the City of Windsor.

- downstream limit: A line from the southerly tip of the Livingstone Channel west to the International

Boundary Line and east to the shore of the Detroit R.

<u>Lake Erie is defined as:</u> In Michigan - those waters south of an east-west line through the southern tip of Celeron Island.

In Canada - those waters south of a line from the southerly tip of the Livingstone Channel west

to the International Boundary Line and east to the shore of the Detroit River.

## **Questions & Answers:**

1. Can I launch my boat in Michigan and fish walleye in Ohio or Ontario in April and May....and bring my catch back into Michigan?

<u>Answer></u> Yes! As long as when you return through Michigan waters you do not drop lines and fish. You must also have the appropriate Ohio or Ontario fishing license.

2. Why not close the walleye season in the Detroit River in April and May?

<u>Answer></u> Because there are enough adult walleye to continue to have a fishery in those waters at this time. It LOOKS like a lot – but only a small fraction of the adult walleye in the Detroit River are caught each spring (from 1% to 3% of the population). The walleye within the bounds of <u>Lake Erie</u> are managed by international agreement and reductions in harvest are proportional with Ohio and Ontario (recreation AND commercial fisheries combined). Each state or province can only harvest a portion of the walleye population – based on jurisdictional surface area of water.

3. Where do most of the walleye in the Detroit River and Lake Erie come from?

Answer> The vast majority of walleye spawning for the whole system occurs in the Maumee River and on reefs in western Lake Erie.

